IN THE MATTER OF	*	BEFORE THE MARYLAND
	*	
CYNTHIA GALMORE	*	STATE BOARD OF
	*	
License Number M00738	*	MORTICIANS AND
	*	
	*	FUNERAL DIRECTORS
******	*****	*********
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#### **CONSENT ORDER OF PROBATION**

On or about July 29, 2015, the Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors (the "Board") received a complaint regarding the mortuary science practice of Cynthia Galmore (the "Respondent"). The Board initiated an investigation. Based upon that investigation, on December 2, 2015, the Board met with the Respondent in an attempt to settle the matter prior to the issuance of formal charges. As a result of that meeting, the Respondent and the Board agreed to the following Consent Order.

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

The Board finds that:

- 1. At all times relevant, the Respondent was licensed to practice mortuary science in the State of Maryland, license number M00738.
- 2. In 2012, the Respondent was retained to provide funeral services for Decedent FK. The cost of the funeral services provided by the Respondent was \$7,914.00, which was paid through the decedent's life insurance.
- 3. At the time, the Respondent utilized a third-party vendor for the processing of insurance proceeds. In this case, the vendor forwarded insurance proceeds to the Respondent an amount in excess of the actual cost of Decedent FK's funeral.
  - 4. On April 4, 2012, August 21, 2012, September 11, 2012, October 10, 2012, and

October 23, 2012, Decedent FK's personal representative, through her attorney, made the Respondent aware of the overpayment.

5. The Respondent disputed the amount of the overage until October 2015, when the personal representative acknowledged to the Board that the overage paid to the Respondent was settled in full.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Board concludes that the Respondent violated Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 7-316(a)(26) ("Commits an act of unprofessional conduct in the practice of mortuary science").

## **ORDER**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, it is hereby:

**ORDERED** that the license of the Respondent to practice mortuary science in the State of Maryland is placed on **PROBATION** for a minimum of **SIX (6) MONTHS** subject to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The Respondent's status as a mortician be listed in the Board's computer records and website as being on "**Probation**";
- In addition to the continuing education units required by Section 7-314 of the Health Occupations Article and the Code of Maryland Regulations 10.29.05 et seq., the Respondent shall complete a Board-approved ethics course. The Respondent's failure to submit to the Board satisfactory evidence of the completion of the aforementioned courses within THREE (3) MONTHS from the effective date of this Order shall constitute a violation of probation and a violation of this Order.

- 3. Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 7-310(e)(4), the Respondent may not act as a supervising mortician for an establishment during the pendency of this probation.
- 4. The Respondent shall comply with the Maryland Morticians and Funeral Directors

  Act and the Board's regulations. Any violation of the Maryland Morticians and

  Funeral Directors Act or the Board's regulations shall constitute a violation of

  probation and a violation of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Respondent shall pay to the Board a monetary fine of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$1000.00) in full by money order or cashier's check made payable to the Board and delivered personally or by certified mail to the Board within SIX (6) MONTHS of the effective date of this Order. Failure to pay this monetary fine in full to the Board within SIX (6) MONTHS of the effective date of this Order shall constitute a violation of probation and a violation of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that if the Respondent violates any of the terms and conditions of this probation and/or this Consent Order, the Board, in its discretion, after notice and an opportunity for an evidentiary hearing before the Board, if there is a genuine dispute as to the material fact(s), or an opportunity for a show cause hearing before the Board, may impose any other disciplinary sanction which the Board may have imposed in this case under Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 7-316 including a reprimand, additional probation, suspension, revocation, and/or monetary fine, said violation being proven by a preponderance of the evidence; and it is further

**ORDERED** that no earlier than **SIX** (6) **MONTHS** after the effective date of this Consent Order, the Board will consider a petition for termination of the Respondent's probationary status;

and it is further

**ORDERED** that there shall be no early termination of the six (6) month probationary period. The Board will not consider any requests from the Respondent to terminate probation any earlier than six (6) months from the effective date of this Order; and it is further

**ORDERED** that this document is a **PUBLIC DOCUMENT** under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions § 4-333(b).

0/8/16 Date

Victor C. March, Sr., President

Maryland State Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors

# **CONSENT**

By this Consent, I acknowledge that I have read this Consent Order in its entirety and I hereby accept and submit to the foregoing Consent Order and its conditions. I acknowledge the

validity of this Consent Order as if entered into after the conclusion of a formal evidentiary hearing in which I would have had the right to legal counsel authorized to practice law in Maryland, to confront witnesses, to give testimony, to request subpoenas for witnesses, to call witnesses on my own behalf, to introduce testimony and evidence on my own behalf, and to all other substantive and procedural protections provided by law. I waive these rights, as well as any appeal rights under Maryland Code Annotated, State Government Article § 10-222.

I sign this Consent Order after having an opportunity to consult with an attorney, voluntarily and without reservation, and I fully understand and comprehend the language, meaning, terms, and effect of this Consent Order.

Cylithia Salmore M00738